

Claims

We claim:

1. A method for treating or preventing diseases associated with body passageways, comprising delivering to an external portion of said body passageway a therapeutic agent.
2. A method for treating or preventing diseases associated with body passageways, comprising delivering to smooth muscle cells of said body passageway, via the adventitia, a therapeutic agent.
3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said therapeutic agent is an anti-angiogenic factor.
4. The method according to claim 1 wherein said therapeutic agent further comprises a polymeric carrier.
5. The method according to claim 3 wherein said polymeric carrier is formed into microspheres having an average size of between 0.5 and 200 μm .
5. The method according to claim 3 wherein said polymeric carrier is poly(ethylene-vinyl acetate) (40% crosslinked).
6. The method according to claim 3 wherein said polymeric carrier is copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid.
7. The method according to claim 3 wherein said polymeric carrier is poly (caprolactone).

8. The method according to claim 3 wherein said polymeric carrier is poly (lactic acid).
9. The method according to claim 3 wherein said polymeric carrier is a copolymer of poly (lactic acid) and poly (caprolactone).
10. The method according to claim 1 wherein said therapeutic agent is a compound which disrupts microtubule function.
11. The method according to claim 10 wherein said compound which disrupts microtubule function is paclitaxel, or an analogues or derivative thereof.
12. The method according to claim 1 wherein said body passageway is selected from the group consisting of arteries, the esophagus, the stomach, the duodenum, the small intestine, the large intestine, biliary tracts, the ureter, the bladder, the urethra, lacrimal ducts, the trachea, bronchi, bronchiole, nasla airways, eustachian tubes, the external auditory canal, and fallopian tubes.
13. The method according to claim 12 wherein said therapeutic agent is delivered to an artery by direct injection via an outer wall of the artery into the adventia.